Statistics for Mission: January to December 2019

Church name:	Parish name:
Deanery:	Diocese:

Reminder: please complete this form online if possible
https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/

The online returns system includes existing information about your church. It automatically checks for typographical errors and minor mistakes and gives you the opportunity to revise your figures before final submission. You can see the data for your church over time and download copies for your records.

- ✓ Please complete this form for your **Church**. If there is more than one church in your parish, then please complete and submit a separate form for each church
- ✓ Where activities – e.g. acts of worship in schools or conducting funeral services at crematoria - are shared between several churches then please ensure, where possible, that they are only reported once
- ✓ Questions 1a and 1b about the **Electoral Roll** refer to the **ecclesiastical Electoral Roll**. Question 1a asks about the ecclesiastical Electoral Roll for your **parish**. Question 1b is optional and only applies if you are in a multi-church parish AND keep a separate roll for your church
- ✓ **Fresh expressions of Church** should be included in your numbers, unless they have submitted a separate return. For help in identifying fresh expressions of Church please use the "Choice tree" at the end of this form or visit https://freshexpressions.org.uk/about/what-is-a-fresh-expression/
- ✓ Please complete all questions as far as possible, using "0" or "unknown" or "no services" if necessary. Unless otherwise indicated, empty fields will be treated as incomplete and may be queried later as missing data
- ✓ In rare circumstances where a single congregation worships evenly between several churches (i.e. there is no difference in who attends and how often at each church), a single return may be submitted. The churches included in the return should be noted below

A single return is submitted on behalf of (please list all included churches here, with church codes if known*):

* *N.B. church codes are not needed if you are planning to submit this return online.*

1a. How many people were on the ecclesiastical Electoral Roll for your parish, as reported at your Annual Parochial Church meeting in 2019?

- ✓ Please write "unknown" if the figure is not available

1a. Number on the ecclesiastical Electoral Roll for your PARISH	

If your parish has more than one church **and** keeps a separate roll for your church, please **also** provide the total electoral roll for your church.

- ✓ Please write "N/A" if this is not applicable to your church

1b. How many people are on your church Electoral Roll?

1b. Number on the CHURCH Electoral Roll	

The next question is about church attendance on a **"USUAL" SUNDAY**

- ✓ A usual Sunday is one that is not a major festival or contained in a peak holiday period
- ✓ Wherever possible, please do not count the same person multiple times – if someone attends more than once on a usual Sunday, please only count them once
- ✓ Only think about the Sundays when you hold at least one service (ignore the Sundays when you do not hold a service at your church)

2. How many people attend your church on a usual Sunday, when there is a service?

2a. Adults (16 years old and over)	
2b. Children and young people (under 16 years old)	

The following questions are about **how many people attended** a service or act of worship at **Easter** (Easter Day and vigil services on Easter Eve), **Advent** (Advent Sunday until 23rd December) and **Christmas** (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day).

- ✓ If you did not hold any services or acts of worship at your church during these periods, please enter "0" in the relevant box

3. How many people came to your church at Easter 2019?

3a: Number of communicants at service(s) on Easter Day and vigil service on Easter Eve	
3b. Total number of people attending worship (including communicants) at service(s) on Easter Day and vigil service on Easter Eve	

4. How many people came to special services run by your church during Advent 2019?

- ✓ Include attendance at special services – e.g. nativities, carol services, carols on the green, crib services - run by your church from Advent Sunday until 23rd December

4a. Total number of people attending special services held for the **congregation and local community**	
4b. Total number of people attending special services held **specifically for civic organisations or schools**	

5. How many people came to your church at Christmas 2019?

5a. Number of communicants at service(s) on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day	
5b. Total number of people attending worship (including communicants) at service(s) on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day	

The next section is the **OCTOBER COUNT** of the number of people attending your church for **services and other acts of worship** during the first 4 weeks of October. This includes the number of people attending on Sundays and during the week (Monday-Saturday).

You are asked to enter a count for each of the first 4 weeks of October 2019. The count is split into Sundays and weekdays; adults and children; and type of service (Church, fresh expressions of Church and school services).

Wherever possible, please **do not count the same person multiple times in the same week** – if someone attends your church more than once during Sunday, please only count them once. If someone attends on a Sunday, please do not include them again in the midweek count for that week.

Number of services: The number of services or fresh expressions of Church held on Sundays & weekdays. Enter "0" if there were none.
School services: These are services held in your church (or church building) that are attended by a school(s). There is a later question about acts of worship held in schools.
Adults: 16 years old and over. Please include those leading the service(s).
Children and young people: Under 16 years old.

Please INCLUDE:
- ✓ Clergy and other ministers attending or leading services
- ✓ Adults and children attending Sunday schools or equivalent activities
- ✓ Attendance at baptisms, including any visitors
- ✓ Any **fresh expressions of Church**, unless they have submitted their own return. A fresh expression of Church is a form of church established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet "members" of any church. For help identifying fresh expressions of Church, please use the "Choice tree" at the end of this form or visit https://freshexpressions.org.uk/about/what-is-a-fresh-expression/
- ✓ Any other church-based activities in which worship is the primary purpose and predominant feature
- ✓ Attendance at services outside the church, e.g. at home, in care homes, prisons, or hospitals (include as Church or Fresh expression attendance, as appropriate)

Please DO NOT INCLUDE:
- ✗ Attendance at weddings or funeral services
- ✗ Activities with only some worship element, such as house groups, parent and toddler groups, youth clubs, Alpha courses, and social events such as harvest supper

6. How many people attended your church in October 2019?

- ✓ If possible, please count each person only once in any week, even if they attended more than once
- ✓ If there were exceptional circumstances that led to unusual October attendance figures in 2019, let us know in the comment box at the end of this form

1.	Number of services	Adult			Children and young people		
		Church	Fresh expressions	School service	Church	Fresh expressions	School service
Sunday 6th October							
Weekdays 7th-12th							

2.	Number of services	Adult			Children and young people		
		Church	Fresh expressions	School service	Church	Fresh expressions	School service
Sunday 13th October							
Weekdays 14th – 19th							

3.	Number of services	Adult			Children and young people		
		Church	Fresh expressions	School service	Church	Fresh expressions	School service
Sunday 20th October							
Weekdays 21st-26th							

4.	Number of services	Adult			Children and young people		
		Church	Fresh expressions	School service	Church	Fresh expressions	School service
Sunday 27th October							
Weekdays 28th-2nd Nov							

7. How often does your ministry team lead acts of worship in schools?

- ✓ This question refers to acts of worship in school buildings rather than in your church or church building (services held for schools in your church should be included within the October count, Easter, or Christmas figures where appropriate)
- ✓ Include any school-based acts of worship led by a person who holds office or responsibility for ministry (ordained or lay) within your church, whether or not the school is in your parish
- ✓ 'Usually' refers to during term-time or when the school is open, ignoring school holidays
- ✓ Tick one box as the closest estimate

Never	Occasionally/ ad hoc	Usually once or twice a term	Usually once a month	Usually once a fortnight	Usually once a week	Usually more than once a week

If there is no school in your parish, tick here: ☐

The following questions are about your **"worshipping community"**. Think about your regular worshipping community at the **end of 2019**. For more information about worshipping communities, please refer to https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-12/WorshippingCommunity.pdf

- ✓ Include anyone who attends your church regularly, for example at least once a month, or would attend if they were not prevented by illness, infirmity or temporary absence
- ✓ Include all congregations in your church, including fresh expressions of Church
- ✗ Do not include visitors, e.g. holidaymakers, baptism parties etc.
- ✗ Do not include people who consider their 'home' church to be another church
- ✗ Do not include people who left the church earlier in the year (they are counted in the next question as 'leavers') and were not part of your worshipping community at the end of 2019

8. How many people were in your "worshipping community" at the end of 2019?

- ✓ Please complete all boxes, as far as you can. If there is no-one in a category, please write "0". If the age groups of your worshipping community are unknown, please use your best estimates. If you are unable to estimate people's ages, please enter the total figure only

TOTAL	Children (Age 0-10)	Young people (Age 11-17)	Adults (Age 18-69)	Adults (Age 70+)

9. How has your worshipping community changed during 2019?

- ✓ If you know how many people have left/joined your worshipping community but you do not know their reasons for leaving or joining, please enter the total figures (or your best estimates) only
- ✓ If there is no-one in a particular category, please write "0"
- ✗ Do not count as joiners or leavers members of your worshipping community who move from "Children and young people" to "Adult"

9a. How many adults and children joined your worshipping community during 2019?					
	TOTAL	Worshipping for the first time	Moved into the area	Moved from a local church	Returned to church
Adults (Age 18+)					
Children and young people					

9b. How many adults and children left your worshipping community during 2019?						
	TOTAL	Death or illness	Moved away	Moved to a local church	Not worshipping anywhere	Other/Don't know
Adults (Age 18+)						
Children and young people						

The next questions are about **fresh expressions of Church**. A fresh expression of Church is a form of Church established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet "members" of any church. Here you are asked to describe aspects of the way the fresh expression of Church is run, rather than providing numbers attending.

- ✓ For help in identifying fresh expressions of Church please use the "Choice tree" at the end of this form or visit https://freshexpressions.org.uk/about/what-is-a-fresh-expression/. If you remain unsure about whether an activity or service meets the definition of a fresh expression, please DO include it here
- ✓ If you have more than three fresh expressions of Church, please continue on an additional sheet
- ✗ Do not include Alpha courses or outreach activities that do not include worship

10. What regular fresh expressions of Church are supported by your church?

☐ **No fresh expressions of Church** (If your church did NOT support fresh expressions of Church during 2019 please tick here and leave the rest of this page blank)

Name of fresh expression	
Description of activity	
Where is it held? (please tick all that apply)	☐ Church ☐ Church Hall ☐ Other (please note where): _____
How often?	☐ Weekly ☐ Fortnightly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Other (please note how often):_____
Age group aimed at? (please tick all that apply)	☐ ALL ages ☐ Family ☐ 0-4 ☐ 5-10 ☐ 11-17 ☐ 18-39 ☐ 40-69 ☐ 70+
Who attends? (please tick all that apply)	☐ Attendees include people who regularly come to other services ☐ Attendees include people who occasionally come to other services ☐ Attendees include people who never come to other services

Name of fresh expression	
Description of activity	
Where is it held? (please tick all that apply)	☐ Church ☐ Church Hall ☐ Other (please note where): _____
How often?	☐ Weekly ☐ Fortnightly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Other (please note how often):_____
Age group aimed at? (please tick all that apply)	☐ ALL ages ☐ Family ☐ 0-4 ☐ 5-10 ☐ 11-17 ☐ 18-39 ☐ 40-69 ☐ 70+
Who attends? (please tick all that apply)	☐ Attendees include people who regularly come to other services ☐ Attendees include people who occasionally come to other services ☐ Attendees include people who never come to other services

Name of fresh expression	
Description of activity	
Where is it held? (please tick all that apply)	☐ Church ☐ Church Hall ☐ Other (please note where): _____
How often?	☐ Weekly ☐ Fortnightly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Other (please note how often):_____
Age group aimed at? (please tick all that apply)	☐ ALL ages ☐ Family ☐ 0-4 ☐ 5-10 ☐ 11-17 ☐ 18-39 ☐ 40-69 ☐ 70+
Who attends? (please tick all that apply)	☐ Attendees include people who regularly come to other services ☐ Attendees include people who occasionally come to other services ☐ Attendees include people who never come to other services

11. How many baptisms and thanksgivings for the gift of a child were held in your church during 2019?

- ✓ If separate services of thanksgiving and baptism were held for an individual both should be recorded here

	Infants (<1 year)	Children (1-4 years)	Children (5-10 years)	Young people (11-17 years)	Adults (18+)
Number of persons **baptised**					
Number of persons for whom a birth or adoption **thanksgiving** service was held					

12. How many marriages and services of prayer and dedication after civil marriage were held in your church during 2019?

Number of couples **married** in your church	
Number of couples for whom **a service of prayer and dedication after a civil marriage** was held in your church	

13. How many funeral services were held at or on behalf of your church during 2019?

- ✓ Include all funerals that were held at your church
- ✓ Include all funerals conducted by any member of your ministry team (including Readers, stipendiary clergy, self supporting clergy, and retired clergy) at a crematorium, cemetery, or other non-church location

Number of deceased for whom a **funeral service was held at your church**	
Number of deceased for whom a full **funeral service** was conducted by a member of your ministry team **at a crematorium, cemetery**, or other non-church location, excluding committal only & burial of ashes only	
Number of deceased for whom a committal only or a burial of ashes only was conducted by a member of your ministry team	

Looking back across 2019, were there any **exceptional circumstances** (e.g. an interregnum or building works) or **significant changes** that may have led to **unusual** figures in this return?

Is there **anything additional** that we should note?

14. Finally, there is a special focus question about social action. Churches' engagement with their communities and responses to social issues can take many forms. This question asks about your church's involvement in those activities that previous research has suggested are amongst the most widespread.

- ✓ **Please only include organised activities that are primarily run for the benefit of the wider community (not primarily for the church congregation)**
- ✓ **If you are unable to complete this question, please leave it blank**

Please tick all that apply to your church ***Please tick as many columns as apply for each activity***	Our church is responsible for running this activity	Our church hosts this activity in its own building(s)	Our church does this activity in partnership with others (e.g. a church, charity, community group, faith group)	Our church supports this activity in other ways e.g. volunteers, donations
Community cafe				
Food bank				
Holiday/ Breakfast/ After-school clubs for children				
Lunch club, coffee morning, or similar hospitality for older people				
Money matters & debt advice				
Night shelter or other homelessness provision				
Parent/carer and toddler group or play group				
Pastoral provision for the wider community (e.g. Street Pastors, counselling/support, befriending schemes)				
Youth work (for wider community)				
Other community activity (please specify)				

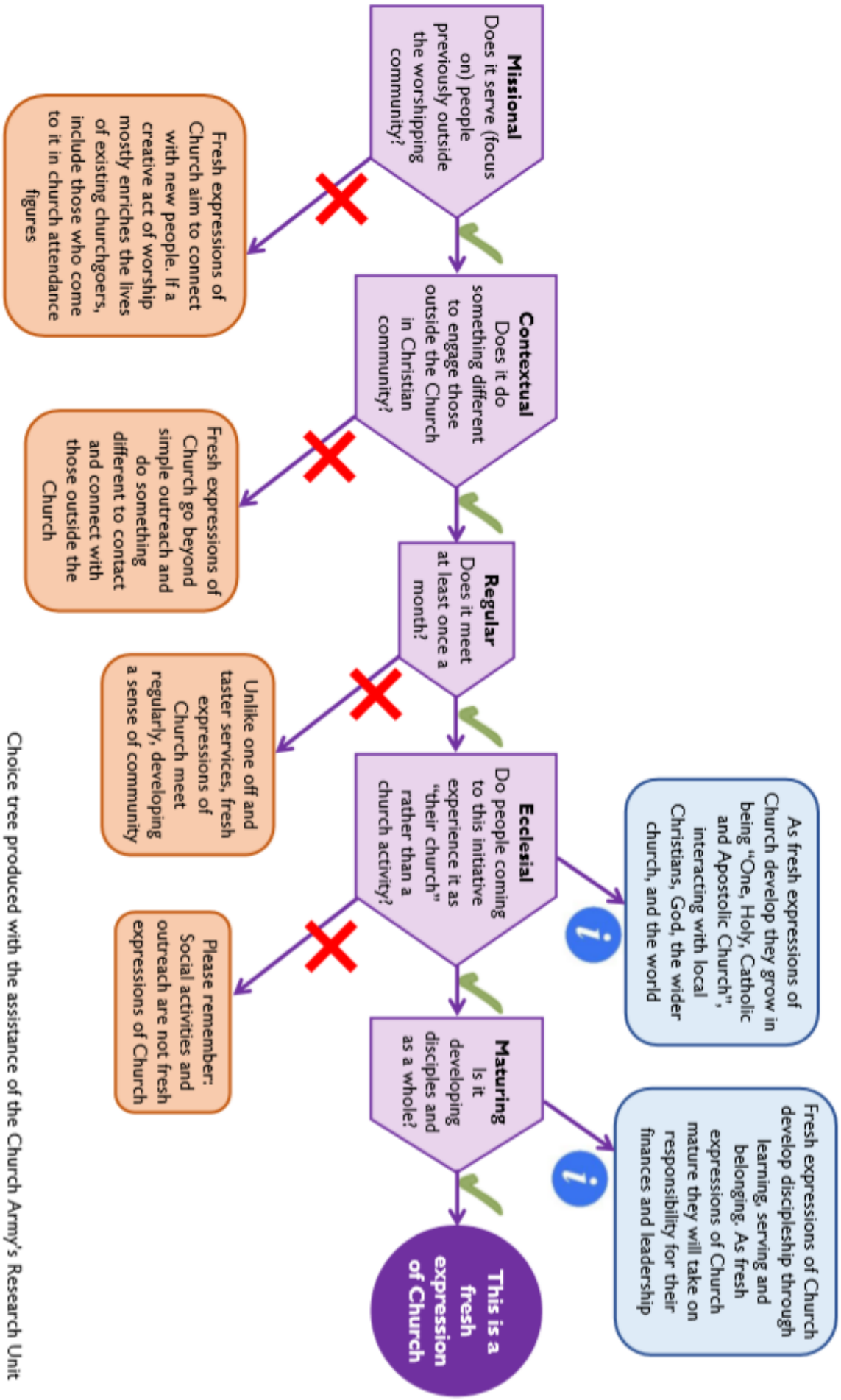
Thank you for completing your annual return on behalf of your church. Your contribution is essential to the on-going care and understanding of our churches and congregations; your diligence, time, and effort are greatly appreciated. Please take a moment to review your answers. Make sure that you have completed every question as far as possible and not left any answers blank (use "0" or "unknown" or "no services" if necessary). Blank answers may be queried with you later.

Please record below the contact details for the person who has completed this form.

Name: **Position:**

Email address: **Date of completion:**

Identifying fresh expressions of Church: fresh expression choice tree



Choice tree produced with the assistance of the Church Army's Research Unit